



NTAA Weekly Update

Week of July 8 – July 12, 2024

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[If you have difficulty reading this, click here to view it online.](#)

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING NTFAQ 2024

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN 2025!



NTFAQ 2024 was hosted in May 2024 by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Cherokee, North Carolina.



Dear Tribal Leader's and Tribal Staff,

Yá'at'ééh (Hello), I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. My name is Ryan Tsingine, an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and Hopi descent from Flagstaff, AZ. I am excited to introduce myself as the new Energy Program Coordinator at Washington State University's (WSU) Energy Program in Olympia, WA. I have a background in Clean Air Act Policy Research, Tribal Clean Transportation Initiatives, and Stakeholder and Community Engagement and Outreach. I am passionate about leveraging renewable energy and clean transportation solutions to create sustainable and resilient communities.

I will be working in the Green Transportation Program at WSU. One of our big projects is a new initiative to support the transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) among Tribal communities in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. Within the 55 federally recognized Tribes in these four states, Native people in the Northwest face unique challenges, including greater social and economic hardships and isolation. Recognizing these challenges, our Native-led team and Native Advisory Committee aims to eliminate barriers to ZEV access in Tribal communities through a comprehensive, community-driven approach, generate greater ZEV awareness, build ZEV technical capacity, and support long-term pollution reduction efforts.

We believe the community-driven approach will support ZEV adoption, create new economic opportunities, and improve the quality of life in Tribal communities. We are eager to collaborate with you and your community to ensure this initiative meets your needs and aspirations. We will be hosting listening sessions, and your participation and insights are vital to the success of this project.

Please take a look at these upcoming opportunities to get engaged in the initiative, to share concerns you may have or describe your own initiatives in the EV transition.

Upcoming Tribal Listening Sessions

The Tribal Green Transportation Program invites Tribal Leaders and Tribal Staff to join in one of two separate listening sessions to learn more about this project, the opportunities for education and technical assistance. We encourage you to bring your voices to help guide the direction of this project with questions you may have and suggestions.

Two different listening sessions will be held:

- Session 1: **Tuesday, July 30th, 10:00 AM – 11:30 PM PT**
 - https://wsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUuc-itrD4jEtBcG76P4_YeRkzXjGPYjNOD
- Session 2: **Wednesday, July 31st, 9:00 AM– 10:30 AM PT**
 - <https://wsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJItcO-hpzguHtcVzaZ-6-Yun4sgynAi-XTg>

Upcoming Green Transportation Summit & Expo

The [Green Transportation Summit and Expo \(GTSE\)](#), August 20-22 in Tacoma, WA, is the premier conference for all things green transportation. This year we are putting together two exciting Tribal engagement workshops for all participants:

- Thursday morning, August 22, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT, will offer a workshop: Advancing Green Transportation through Effective Tribal Engagement.
- Thursday afternoon, from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM PT, will showcase a panel discussion that will include Current Successes in Tribal Green Transportation.

PLEASE NOTE: Tribal Leadership or Tribal staff receive **complimentary registration** to GTSE using the code **GTSE-TA24** on the registration form. In addition, there are a limited number of travel scholarships available for Tribal Leaders of Tribal Staff to help cover hotel and transportation to this event. Please contact: greentransportation@energy.wsu.edu to express your interest and receive additional details.

Please contact me with any questions or to discuss how to best support your community's transition to zero-emission transportation. I look forward to developing ways we can work together to create a sustainable and equitable future for all.

Sincerely,
Ryan Tsingine
Energy Program Coordinator
Washington State University Energy Program
Phone: (360) 956-2085
Email: TsingineR@energy.wsu.edu

2024 ITEP OFFICE HOURS

TAMS OFFICE HOURS

Second Tuesday
11:00AM Pacific

- July 9
- September 10
- November 10

TAMS STEERING COMMITTEE AIR MONITORING WORKGROUP

11:00 AM
Pacific

- August 13
- October 8
- December 10

INDOOR AIR QUALITY OFFICE HOURS

Third Thursday
11:00 AM Pacific

- July 18
- August 15
- September 19
- October 17
- November 21
- December 19

GRANTS OFFICE HOURS

First Wednesday
10AM Pacific

- July 3
- August 7
- September 4
- October 2
- November 6
- December 4

OUTREACH & EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS

Third Thursday
12:00 PM Pacific

- July 18
- August 15
- September 19
- October 17
- November 21
- December 19



ZOOM MEETING ID: 659-096-3943
PASSWORD: AIAQTP

Join ITEP staff for various Office Hours to ask questions and learn more about pertinent air quality and monitoring issues using this [Zoom Link](#).

AIAQTP IN PERSON COURSE SCHEDULE

July 2024 - June 2025

INTRODUCTION TO AIR QUALITY

JULY 30-AUGUST 1, 2024, FLAGSTAFF, AZ

MANAGEMENT OF TRIBAL AIR PROGRAMS & GRANTS

AUGUST 20-22, 2024, QUAPAW, OK

INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2024, ALBUQUERQUE, NM

FUNDAMENTALS OF AIR MONITORING

OCTOBER 15-17, 2024, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

AIR QUALITY IN ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES

NOVEMBER 5-7, 2024, FAIRBANKS, AK

PM 2.5 AIR MONITORING

DECEMBER 10-12, 2024, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

AIR QUALITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

JANUARY 14-16, 2025, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

AIR POLLUTION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

FEBRUARY 25-27, 2025, PHOENIX? -TBD

PROJECT PLANNING, QAPPS, & GRANTS FOR ALASKA

MARCH 18-20, 2025, ANCHORAGE, AK

AIR QUALITY DATA MANAGEMENT

APRIL 15-17, 2025, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

AIAQTP OFFICE HOURS TOPICS

GRANTS, AMBIENT AIR MONITORING, EMISSION INVENTORIES,
OUTREACH & EDUCATION, INDOOR AIR QUALITY

[AIAQTP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PAGE](#)



FIREWOOD BANK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

GRANTS OF UP TO \$15,000 AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS
DELIVERING WOOD TO ELDERS OR TO HOMES EXPERIENCING
HEATING EMERGENCIES

firewoodbanks.org for more information



Grants of up to \$15,000 for firewood banks or programs to assist elders with firewood are available! Our funding can be used to buy equipment or anything else that is needed to run - or to start a - firewood bank. The term "firewood bank" includes any and all efforts to process and deliver free or extremely low-cost wood to households who can't afford to buy it. More details at www.firewoodbanks.org.



Wildfire Smoke Air Monitoring Equipment Available for Loan to State, Local, and Tribal Agencies

EPA's Office of Research and Development is loaning air monitoring technologies to state, local, and Tribal air organizations to support supplemental air monitoring in areas affected by wildfire smoke and with observational data coverage gaps.

For more information and access to the loan request webform, please visit [EPA WSMART](https://www.epa.gov/epaospr/air-research/wildfire-smoke-air-monitoring-response-technology). For technical questions, please contact smoketech@epa.gov.

TRIBAL HOME ENERGY REBATES

Up to \$225M for Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates -- provides up to \$14,000 per household for energy efficiency and electrification home upgrades.

Qualified Projects Include:

- **HVAC:** Electric heat pumps for water heating and space heating or cooling
- **Cooking:** Electric stoves, cooktops, ovens
- **Laundry:** Heat pump clothes dryer
- **Building Materials:** Electric Load Service Center, Insulation, Air Sealing, and Ventilation

Deadline: May 31, 2025

Learn more here!



SCEP
STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS



Top Stories

Fox Weather - [How did your city's air quality fare from the 4th of July fireworks?](#)

Greenwire - [EPA lost big at the Supreme Court this term. There's more to come.](#)

The Hill – [Record-setting heat will continue scorching western US this week](#)

Energywire – [Supreme Court overturns FERC solar approval after Chevron's demise](#)

NACAA Washington Update - [This Week in Review](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/Tribes News

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel - [Ojibwe side with EPA against 12 states' suing over tribal water rights](#)

ABC News - [North Dakota tribe goes back to its roots with a massive greenhouse operation](#)

Alaska's News Source - [Melting of Alaska's Juneau Icefield accelerates, losing snow nearly 5 times faster than in the 1980s](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

KPIC - [Eugene-based Beyond Toxics highlights risk to food safety after SCOTUS decision](#)

NPR - [Climate advocates boost EVs as anti-EV ads run in Pa. | StateImpact Pennsylvania](#)

Environmental Health News - [Neducts](#)

Indoor Air Quality/Environmental Justice

*Any items endorsed in articles are not the recommendation of the NTAA.

Hawaii News Now - [Indoor air quality concerns force nearly 100 employees at Honolulu Hale to work remotely](#)

Phys.org - [Restoring the Great Salt Lake would support environmental justice as well as have ecological benefits, researchers say](#)

CBS - [Indoor air systems crucial to curbing spread of viruses, aerosol researchers say](#)

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES/NOTICES!

NTAA Upcoming Calls

Contact maxwell.benning@nau.edu if you have any questions about any calls. A Zoom link will be sent with calendar invites for future NTAA work group calls.

Wildfire Smoke Workgroup: Email Maxwell.benning@nau.edu for a calendar link or to join the listserv. The Wildfire Smoke Workgroup aims to provide resources to Tribes to help prepare before and during wildfire smoke events.	July 11, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Woodsmoke Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in woodsmoke issues in Tribal communities. Contact Maxwell.benning@nau.edu to join the call!	TBD, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Clean Transportation Bimonthly Roundtable Calls: The Tribal Clean Transportation Program (TCTP) is the go-to source of all information related to Clean Transportation. Roundtable calls will be held bi-monthly on the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, email TCTP@nau.edu	August 7, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Alaska Air Work Group: Join this work group to hear updates from EPA and Alaskans working on air quality. Contact Maxwell.benning@nau.edu to join the call!	July 31, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
NTAA / EPA Air Policy Update Call: Join this monthly meeting to hear updates from EPA on important air quality and climate policy updates as well as updates around the country related to Tribal Air Programs. Calls are held on the last Thursday of every month unless it falls on a holiday. Contact Maxwell.benning@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, July 25, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Office Hours: The IAQ WG is teaming up with ITEP's IAQ Office hours with Mansel Nelson. Please join us for ITEP's next IAQ office hours, we would love to have you there!	July 18, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)

[Click Here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. Sign up for a self-paced course hosted by ITEP's Waste and Response and Tribal Air Quality programs.

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP): [AIAQTP Schedule and Zoom Link](#)

ITEP Grants Office Hours: August 7, from 9-10 AM Alaska, 10-11 AM Pacific, 11-12 PM Mountain, 12-1 PM Central, 1-2 PM Eastern. Bring your grant questions and concerns. [Join Zoom Meeting](#): Meeting ID: 659 096 3943 Password: AIAQTP

TAMS Air Monitoring Workgroup Meeting: September 10, 11:00 AM Pacific Time
This Workgroup is an opportunity for Tribes to discuss concerns and issues regarding air monitoring programs and projects together and to learn about available equipment for loan and more. [Join Zoom Meeting](#): Meeting ID: 659 096 3943 Password: AIAQTP

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

EPA UPDATES!

- **Climate Change Indicators in the United States: Fifth Edition**
On July 2, the USEPA released the Fifth Edition of Climate Change Indicators in the United States. The report highlights new data showing the continuing and far-reaching impacts of climate change on the people and environment of the United States. [Learn More.](#)
- **Technology Transitions Proposed Restrictions on the Use of Certain HFCs in the Residential and Light Commercial Air Conditioning and Heat Pump Variable Refrigerant Flow Systems Subsector**
On June 26, the USEPA published this proposed rule that would narrowly amend a provision of the Technology Transitions regulation published on October 24, 2023. It proposes to allow one additional year, until January 1, 2027, solely for the installation of new Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) systems using HFCs with a global warming potential of 700 or more, and where the components were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the US prior to January 1, 2026. EPA is accepting public comment until July 26, 2024. [Learn More.](#)

Recent News Releases

- **[HQ. EPA Releases Updated Climate Indicators Report Showing How Climate Change is Impacting People's Health and the Environment.](#)** Tues 7/2.
- **[HQ. EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan Addresses EPA Staff to Mark Historic Environmental Progress Under President Biden.](#)** Thurs 6/27.

Meeting Updates

- July 7 – 12: [International Radiation Protection Association \(IRPA\) 16th / 69th Health Physics Society \(HPS\) Annual Meeting.](#) Orlando, FL.
- August 12 – 15: 2024 [National Ambient Air Monitoring Conference.](#) New Orleans, LA.
- August 28 – 30: [AAPCA 2024 Fall Business Meeting.](#) Raleigh, NC.

NEW! National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Call: July 16, 2024

EPA invites Environmental Justice (EJ) advocates to participate in the next [National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Call](#) taking place on **Tuesday, July 16, 2024 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. These calls are free and open to the public. Also please mark your calendars for upcoming calls on August 20th and September 17th.

Registration

Link: https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_XIgAdMDiSnuzJAIQGTZ6rA

Tentative Agenda:

- **Community Spotlight**
- **Inflation Reduction Act Roadshow Update**
- **EJScreen 2.3 Update and Demonstration**
- **External Civil Rights Update**
- **Community Change Grants Technical Assistance and Resources**

The purpose of these calls is to inform the community and other stakeholders about EPA's EJ work and enhance opportunities to maintain an open dialogue with EJ advocates.

Please email farrell.ericka@epa.gov to request reasonable accommodation for a disability or interpreter services in a language other than English, so that you can participate in the call and/or to request a translation of any of the event documents into a language other than English.

For more information about the National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Calls, please email farrell.ericka@epa.gov

Recordings and meeting materials for all calls are posted here: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-community-engagement-calls>.

NEW! Please see consultation opportunities being offered by WHCNAA regarding the September 2023 *Recommendations to Improve Mining on Public Lands* report.

Courtesy Notice: WHCNAA Tribal Leader Consultation on Improving Mining on Public Lands

This is a courtesy notice that the White House Council on Native American Affairs (WHCNAA), in conjunction with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and Department of Energy (DOE), will conduct four (4) Tribal Leader Consultations regarding the September 2023 *Recommendations to Improve Mining on Public Lands* report. Please see the attached materials for a consultation letter summarizing the recommendations and a copy of the 2023 report. If your Tribe is unable to participate in any of these sessions or has additional feedback that you are unable to share in the session, you can submit written comments to whcnaa@bia.gov. Written comments are requested by August 31, 2024. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.bia.gov/tribal-critical-minerals-initiative>.

The schedule of Consultation is as follows:

Lower 48 Tribes

July 30, 2024

10 A.M. – 1 P.M. MT

Hybrid (In-person and virtual)

Register: [Here](#)

Virtual All Tribes & Native Alaskans

August 13, 2024

12 P.M. – 2 P.M. ET

Virtual only meeting

Register: [Here](#)

Alaska Native Villages

August 20, 2024

10 A.M. – 1 P.M. AT

Hybrid (In-person and virtual)

Register: [Here](#)

Alaska Native Corporations

August 21, 2024

10 A.M. – 1 P.M. AT

Hybrid (In-person and virtual)

Register: [Here](#)

REMINDER! EPA Releases Updated Climate Indicators Report Showing How Climate Change is Impacting People's Health and the Environment

EPA released the fifth edition of Climate Change Indicators in the United States - a report that documents how climate change is impacting the United States today, the significance of these changes, and their possible consequences for people, the environment, and society.

Using EPA's climate change indicators and relevant scientific literature, the report groups indicators into eight themes: Greenhouse Gases, Heat on the Rise, Extreme Events, Water Resources at Risk, Changing Seasons, Ocean Impacts, Rising Seas, and Alaska's Warming Climate. Indicators related to human health and societal impacts of climate change are integrated throughout the report. Each chapter also includes information on why it matters and examples of what EPA, people, and communities can do and are doing to address climate change.

In addition, EPA updated a majority of the indicators on the website and published a new indicator on Marine Heat Waves and a new feature on Heat-Related Workplace Deaths.

Read the report: <https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/climate-change-indicators-united-states-fifth-edition>

Explore the website: <https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators>

Read the news release: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-updated-climate-indicators-report-showing-how-climate-change-impacting>

REMINDER! Is Your Home Smoke Ready?

Whether you deal with wildfire smoke year after year or were caught off guard when smoke blanketed much of the country in a thick haze last summer, it's always a good idea to get your home ready for smoke. Smoke from wildfires can travel hundreds, even thousands of miles and make the outdoor air unhealthy to breathe. Some of that smoke can enter your home and make it unhealthy to breathe the indoor air as well.

Follow the tips below to get your home Smoke Ready and protect your family and indoor air quality during wildfire smoke events.

Find air quality information for your area

Knowing the air quality in your area can help you decide when to take action to reduce your family's exposure to smoke. Know where to find your local Air Quality Index (AQI) for smoke on the [Fire and Smoke Map](#) and wildfire smoke advisories from your state or local government.

Learn how to keep smoke out of your home

Some home heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and appliances can bring in outside air. Find out if your home has any of these devices and learn how to adjust them to help keep smoky air out during a wildfire event:

- **Fresh air intake on central HVAC** – Find out how to close it or turn the system to recirculate mode.
- **Window air conditioner** – Find out how to close the outdoor air damper if your device has one. Make sure the seal between the air conditioner and the window is as tight as possible.
- **Evaporative (swamp) cooler** – Use sparingly during smoky conditions because these devices must bring in a lot of outdoor air to cool the indoor air.

- **Portable air conditioner** – Make sure the seal between the window vent kit and the window is as tight as possible. If your device has a single hose, use the device sparingly during wildfire smoke events because it can create conditions that bring smoky air inside. Note - Portable air conditioners with two hoses do not create these conditions.

Plan to filter the air in your home

Filtering the air in your home can remove smoke particles from the indoor air. [Fine particles](#), such as those in wildfire smoke, can affect the heart, lungs and other organs, causing health problems such as burning eyes and runny nose, and aggravating chronic heart and lung diseases. Consider these options to filter the air in your home:

- **High-efficiency filter in your central HVAC system** - Choose one with a [MERV 13 rating](#), or as high a rating as your system fan and filter slot can accommodate. You may need to consult a professional HVAC technician to determine the highest efficiency filter that will work best for your system.

Find out how to turn the fan to “On” (instead of “Auto”) so that you can run the system fan as often as possible during a smoke event.

- **Portable air cleaner** - Choose one that is sized for the room in which you will use it. Make sure the portable air cleaner [does not make ozone](#). The California Air Resources Board maintains a [list of air cleaners](#) that have been tested and shown to emit little or no ozone. Learn how to set the fan to run continuously at the highest speed during a smoke event. If a portable air cleaner is not available or affordable, [learn how to build a DIY air cleaner](#).

For more information about choosing an air filter or portable air cleaner for your home, see the Wildfire Smoke Factsheet on [Indoor Air Filtration](#) and EPA’s [Guide to Air Cleaners in the Home](#).

Learn More to Prepare for Wildfire Smoke Events

- Learn more about [Wildfires and Indoor Air Quality](#)
- Wildfire Smoke Factsheet: [Prepare for Fire Season](#)
- EPA [Why is Coco Red?](#)
- EPA [Smoke Ready Toolbox for Wildfires](#)
- EPA [Wildfires](#)
- CDC [Wildfires](#)
- CDC [Ready Wrigley Prepares for Wildfires & Smoke](#)
- Ready.gov [Wildfires](#)
- Ready.gov [Prepare with Pedro! Wildfire](#)

REMINDER! EPA is seeking nominations from representatives of nonfederal interests to serve on the Mobile Sources Technical Review Subcommittee (MSTRS). Interests include, but are not limited to:

- Future and emerging transportation technology and options, including shared mobility interests
- Community and/or environmental and/or mobility justice interests
- State, tribal, and local government interests
- Mobile source emission modeling interests
- Transportation and supply chain shippers
- Marine and inland port interests
- Environmental advocacy groups
- Mobile source consumer advocacy groups

EPA values and welcomes opportunities to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility on its Federal Advisory Committees. In an effort to obtain nominations of diverse candidates,

EPA encourages nominations of people from all racial and ethnic groups. MSTRS members are appointed by the EPA Administrator for three-year terms with the possibility of reappointment to a second term. Through its expert members from diverse stakeholder groups and from its various workgroups, the subcommittee reviews and addresses a wide range of developments, issues, and research areas such as emissions modeling, emission standards and standard setting, air toxics, innovative and incentive-based transportation policies, heavy-duty engines, diesel retrofit, and fuel quality.

The MSTRS, a federal advisory committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, provides the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee with independent advice, counsel, and recommendations on the scientific and technical aspects of programs related to mobile source air pollution and its control. The subcommittee's website is at <https://www.epa.gov/caaac/mobile-sources-technical-review-subcommittee-mstrs-caaac>.

For more information on how to submit a nomination, please see the [Federal Register Notice](#) announcing the request for nominations. Nominations must be received by **July 31, 2024**. If you have any questions, please contact: Sarah Roberts, Alternate Designated Federal Officer; email: roberts.sarah@epa.gov.

REMINDER! Trainings and Office Hours on EJSCREEN 2.3, EPA's Environmental Justice Mapping Tool

This summer, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will update [EJScreen](#), the Agency's publicly available environmental justice (EJ) screening and mapping tool. The updated version, EJScreen 2.3, makes important improvements to better meet the needs of users, including new environmental indicators and map layers, interface improvements, and updated demographic and environmental data. This new version of EJScreen will make interface changes aimed at helping users better understand the data and modernizing aspects of the tool. The main purpose of these annual EJScreen updates is to incorporate the newest available demographic and environmental datasets.

Once released, the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights will hold multiple trainings and office hours to help users with the update. Trainings are structured webinars on EJScreen 2.3. Office hours are a chance for the public to talk with EPA EJScreen experts about many topics including how to use and apply the tool, technical issues, and any other questions. Registration is not required for trainings or office hours. More information can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/ejscreen-office-hours-training>.

Training and Office Hours Information:

Training Date and Time: July 24th at 12pm EST – [Click here to join](#)

The trainings will feature the same content and will be accessible via Zoom. The trainings will provide an:

1. Overview Presentation on EJScreen 2.3
2. Discussion of the New Features
3. Live Demonstration
4. Q&A session

Office Hours Date and Time: August 21 at 12pm EST – [Click here to join](#)

We hope that you will test the new features of EJScreen 2.3 to see how it can serve your needs and [provide us feedback](#) on how we can continue to improve this tool. For more information on EJScreen, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>.

REMINDER! Since we launched the EJ TCTAC website, www.ejtctac.org, we have seen nearly 7,000 page views to the resources that we have available, from the grants database to the direct lines of contact to regional TCTACs for technical assistance.

Representatives from the national TCTACs are also excited to connect with regional TCTACs and partners at the [U.S. EPA Regional Roadshows](#) across the country, to spread the word about the TCTAC program and learn more about how we can support grassroots groups.

REMINDER! Join the TCTAC Network News [HERE!](#)

With this monthly internal newsletter, we will send you updates on our projects, share spotlights of the great work being done across the country, reminders for program events, and whatever else you may need.

REMINDER! State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants (SIRG)

EPA's Indoor Environments Division (IED) receives funding for the state and tribal radon grants program annually. For FY2024, the State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants Program will be funded at \$9.13M

The radon grant funding to states and tribes is essential to supporting many state and tribal radon programs in their risk reduction work. IED issued guidance encouraging Regional Offices to direct additional funding to new tribal grantees as well as encouraging state grantees to assist underserved and low-income communities.

EPA recently revised the SIRG allocation approach to include updated risk and population trends. As part of this revision, Regions, for the first time, will establish tribal set-aside funding targets for each Region. This approach is intended to help each Region further prioritize meeting Tribal SIRG funding needs within their Region. Our Headquarters radon program will be working with EPA Regional offices to set and manage their regional set-asides.

EPA Regions work with states and tribes annually to develop program budgets and workplans. They lead the important work of communicating with their tribal communities about the availability of funds, how to apply, conditions, limitations, as well as how to properly use radon funds.

The IED Radon Program continues to promote Tribal radon grants. In FY 23, there 16 radon grants to tribes, including 7 new tribal awards, totaling approximately \$560,000 to at least 16 tribes.

Tribes that are interested in radon grant funding or learning more about the program are encouraged to work with their [regional radon program contact](#) to talk about the application process.

To learn more about State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants, please visit:

- [Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities](#)
- [State Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program and Resources.](#)
- [Kansas State University National Radon Program Services](#)

REMINDER! The EPA OAQPS AirKnowledge team is pleased to announce the availability of new AirKnowledge air quality training materials!

The new materials include:

- A self-instructional course that describes the components of an exceptional events demonstration,

- A self-instructional module that identifies resources and tools that aid in protecting human health from wildland fire smoke, and
- A self-instructional module that explains the key aspects of the historical background of the Clean Air Act permitting programs.

More detailed information about the contents of these new materials can be found in the attached document.

We are also announcing the retirement of certain legacy course materials. These include the classroom course titled MACT Background Information (NACT 290), and e-learning modules titled Emissions Inventories, Fabric Filtration, and Overview of Air Pollution.

The new e-learning course and modules are available to tribal, state, and local air agencies through the AirKnowledge Learning Management System (LMS) at <https://epaapti.csod.com/client/epaapti/default.aspx>. To access the course and modules on the LMS, tribal, state and local air agencies and tribal and multijurisdictional organizations can register, log in, and refer to the “What’s New” section on the home page. The materials are available to all other users on the AirKnowledge website: airknowledge.gov. Questions and comments are always welcome and may be sent to airknowledge@epa.gov.

REMINDER! The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference (NTICC) invites you to apply for their [call for presentations](#). The 2024 NTICC Planning Committee is now accepting proposals for the 27th Annual NTICC. If you would like to submit a proposal, complete the form. The 2024 NTICC is an in-person event, set for August 25, 2024, at the Choctaw Casino & Resort. Please review the call for presentation information at <https://www.nticc.org/call-for-presentations> prior to completing this form.

REMINDER! The Alaska Solid Waste Burning webinars were broadcast on November 16th and December 13th, 2023. The PowerPoint presentations and a recording of the webinar are available [HERE](#).

REMINDER! SMOKE: State of the Science

The recording for the virtual session [SMOKE: State of the Science](#) is now posted on the Rocky Mountain Research Station website in case you missed it or would like to share with others.

REMINDER! [Communities First Fund](#)’s (CFF) [Rapid Response Fund](#) will provide rapid response funding to support organizations’ or coalitions’ needs to position themselves or others to respond to infrastructure crises, movement moments, and time sensitive federal funding notices or rulemaking that require rapid mobilization. The Fund has a national scope with specific priority given to geographies that have historically received disproportionate public investment, including the Midwest and the South. **Applications will be reviewed bi-monthly (1st Friday and 3rd Friday of each month)**, and awards will be determined by the CFF team. **[The Rapid Response Fund is limited to \\$1,000,000. Grants will be distributed on a rolling basis until the fund is spent down.](#)** Awards will range between \$10,000 - \$100,000 depending on scope and scale of the work funded.

REMINDER! Now Available! Overview documents on EJ financial and technical resources for Tribes and Indigenous peoples:

1. [EPA EJ Program Financial and Technical Assistance Programs and Resources, October 4, 2023](#)
2. [Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program, September 25, 2023](#)
3. [Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaker Program Subawards, September 14, 2023](#)

REMINDER! Grants Update: Required Use of ID.me to Sign into ASAP.gov and Establishment of New EPA General Terms and Conditions

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Grants and Debarment has published [RAIN-2023-G03](#) and [RAIN-2023-G04](#).

[RAIN-2023-G03](#): This Recipient/Applicant Information Notice (RAIN) informs recipients and applicants of the U.S Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) requirement to use ID.me to log into ASAP.gov by September 15, 2023.

[RAIN-2023-G04](#): This Recipient/Applicant Information Notice (RAIN) informs recipients of the addition of new General Terms and Conditions. Please see each RAIN for more information.

If you have questions about these RAINs, please send email directly to EPA_Grants_Info@epa.gov.

REMINDER! EPA Grants Trainings Available!

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment is pleased to announce the availability of several new and updated training resources for grant applicants and recipients.

- NEW—Learn how to [Register in SAM.gov and Grants.gov](#) to apply for EPA grants. This webpage will help you register your organization in SAM.gov, create an applicant profile in Grants.gov, and get familiar with using Workspace.
- The [How to Develop a Budget training](#) was recently updated. This course will help you prepare work plans, budgets, and budget narratives for EPA grants.
- The [EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients](#) course introduces key aspects of the grant life cycle starting with preparing an application through closing out a grant. The six modules can be completed individually.

Reminder: Stay tuned to [EPA's Grants Webinars](#) schedule to register for upcoming webinars and access recordings, helpful links, and FAQs.

If you have any questions regarding these trainings or have suggestions for new training or webinar topics, please send an email to EPA_Grants_Info@epa.gov

REMINDER! The White House: FACT SHEET: How the Inflation Reduction Act Helps Tribal Communities

By signing the Inflation Reduction Act, President Biden is delivering on his promise to meet the climate crisis and build an economy that works for working families, including Tribal nations and American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian families. The Inflation Reduction Act lowers prescription drug costs, health care costs, and energy costs. It's the most aggressive action we have taken to confront the climate crisis. It'll lower the deficit and ask the super wealthy and corporations to pay their fair share. And no one making under \$400,000 per year will pay a penny more in taxes. [Click Here for FACT SHEET.](#)

Climate Change / Energy

The Tribal Climate Change Guide is a searchable database that features up-to-date information on available grants, adaptation plans, climate programs, and climate tools to assist Native peoples in addressing impacts of climate change on their communities and ways of life. The guide also features national events, climate job postings, education resources, publications, and a directory of climate change scientists. <https://toolkit.climate.gov/tool/tribal-climate-change-guide>

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

REMINDER! Did you know... When a person smokes or vapes, they inhale the chemicals in the product. People around the smoker or vaper are also exposed to these chemicals – this exposure is called secondhand exposure.

[Secondhand tobacco smoke](#) exposure can cause lung cancer, cardiovascular disease like heart disease and stroke. It can result in premature deaths from these conditions **among non-smoking** adults.

In **infants and children**, secondhand tobacco smoke can cause health problems that include sudden infant death syndrome and respiratory and ear infections.

For **children with asthma**, secondhand tobacco smoke is [an asthma trigger](#) that can cause more frequent and severe asthma attacks.

Secondhand tobacco smoke can **move between rooms** of a home and may remain indoors for a long time – even after a person is finished smoking. Air cleaners cannot fully eliminate secondhand tobacco smoke from the air.

[Secondhand marijuana smoke](#) contains **many of the same toxic and cancer-causing chemicals** found in tobacco smoke and may contain some of those chemicals **in higher amounts**.

Even secondhand [aerosols from vaping](#) (secondhand e-cigarette aerosols) and secondhand tobacco smoke can contain similar harmful substances.

The **only way** to fully eliminate secondhand exposure is to prohibit smoking and vaping in indoor spaces, including in cars, and away from building air intakes, doors, open windows, and other enclosed spaces.

If you smoke or vape and want to quit, you can find a [list of resources here](#). Doing so will help you and your loved ones.

Learn more about:

- [Secondhand Smoke/Aerosol Exposure](#)
- [Indoor Air Quality](#)

REMINDER! Webinar Recording Available: Health Implications of Ozone- and PM-Producing Indoor Air Cleaners

On Aug. 2, EPA hosted a webinar about indoor air cleaners featuring Dr. Jose-Luis Jimenez of the University of Colorado Boulder.

Some air cleaners produce ozone or particulate matter, which can degrade indoor air quality. In his presentation, Dr. Jimenez examined these types of air cleaners and compared the estimated reduction in mortality due to reduced airborne disease transmission (COVID-19 and flu) with the estimated increase in mortality due to degradation of indoor air quality. [Watch the recording here](#).

REMINDER! Factsheets Available for Schools Facing Climate Change

Get Tips for School Staff and Parents for Creating Cleaner Air and Cooling Centers at Schools EPA's latest factsheets are designed to help schools and communities that are facing the consequences of climate change.

As extreme weather events such as wildfires and heatwaves overlap with other stressors such as infectious diseases like COVID-19, it's important for schools and their partners to work together to mitigate the health risks to students and the community.

Children are uniquely vulnerable to extreme heat and wildfire smoke, because of their size, physiology, and factors that include playing outdoors and having less control over their environment and exposure to harm.

About the Factsheets: The [Schools as Cleaner Air and Cooling Centers: Tips for Facility Managers, Principals, Teachers, and Parents and Caregivers](#) factsheets discuss a variety of approaches for mitigating the health consequences of these natural disasters such as:

- HVAC and maintenance considerations;
- Recommendations for planning and partner coordination;
- Emergency checklists; and
- A suite of additional resources

Be sure to subscribe to [CodeTalk](#), HUD's Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!

NOW HIRING!

REMINDER! Hopi Tribe DNR... Now Hiring!

There are several open positions with the Hopi Tribe Department of Natural Resources, positions include:

Wildlife Ecosystems Management Program

- Program Manager
- Forester/Woodland Ecologist
- Wildlife Biologist

Water Resources Program

- Water Resource Technician II

Range Management

- Range Technician
- Range Conservationist

<https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/human-resources/job-listings/>

REMINDER! National Indian Health Board – The National Indian Health Board has several positions open in Public Policy and Programs:

Climate Health Project Coordinator

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an experienced public health professional to work on environmental health projects specifically related to climate change. The position will have a focus on National Indian Health Board's Climate Ready Tribes Initiative, assisting Tribes with adaptation to the effects of climate change and elevating issues impacting Tribal climate health. The position is full-time, salaried, and may include travel up to 20% of the time. Position base in Washington, DC is preferred but not required.

Environmental Health Project Associate

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an entry-level public health professional to work on environmental health projects. The position will have a focus on National Indian Health Board's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center, which connects Tribal environmental health programs to existing funding opportunities, provides technical assistance to Tribes on federal grant applications, and elevates issues impacting Tribal environmental health. The position is full-time, salaried, and may include travel up to 20% of the time. This position is based in Washington, DC.

Public Health Policy & Programs Project Coordinator (Climate & Environmental Health)

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an experienced public health professional to work on current and future public health projects and initiatives. The position will have a focus on creating and coordinating projects that focus on improving the state of Tribal environmental health and environmental justice and Tribal environmental health systems. The position will work on a team with an Environmental Health Program Director, Manager, Coordinators, Associates, and Interns. The Coordinator will also work with colleagues in the Public Health Policy & Programs Department and organization-wide, to coordinate and implement public health events, including the NIHB National Tribal Public Health Summit. Included in the above duties, the Coordinator will deliver technical assistance, coordinate and facilitate meetings with stakeholders, draft communications, and keep records of all project accomplishments. This position is based in Washington, DC, and requires up to 20% travel.

Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center Senior Manager

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an experienced environmental programs professional to focus on environmental technical assistance projects. The position will have a focus on National Indian Health Board's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center, connecting Tribal environmental programs to existing funding opportunities, providing technical assistance to Tribes on federal grant applications related to environmental justice, and elevating issues impacting Tribal environmental health. The position is full-time, salaried, and may include travel up to 20% of the time. Position base in Washington, DC, is preferred but not required.

RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES!

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

REMINDER! EPA Grants Procurement, Subawards, and Participant Support Costs Webinar

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment is pleased to confirm that materials from the EPA Procurement, Subawards, and Participant Support Costs Webinar held on June 27, 2023, are now available on the [EPA Grants Procurement, Subawards, and Participant Support Costs Webinar webpage](#):

- Recording of the webinar with closed captions
- Helpful web links from the presentation
- A list of Questions & Answers based on questions submitted by attendees during the webinar
- Presentation slides in PDF format

If you have questions about the posted materials or need more information on EPA's grants award process, please email EPA_Grants_Info@epa.gov

Climate Change/Energy

Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program: Eligible applicants can apply to receive a 10 or 20-percentage point boost to the energy investment tax credit for qualified solar or wind facilities that are in low-income communities or on Tribal land, are part of affordable housing developments, or benefit low-income households. **Submit applications by November 18th to be reviewed first.** After the 18th, applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis through early 2024. Go to #3 on [our website](#) for more information.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

[WRI's Electric School Bus Initiative](#) is helping districts take advantage of this and other funding sources by providing free resources on the school bus electrification process, including a [step-by-step guide](#), a [power planner](#) for working with electric utilities, and a [market report/buyer's guide](#) detailing the electric school bus models on the road today. If you need help, please reach out to [WRI](#) for support.

Indoor Air Quality

Factsheets & Resources: Choosing Safe, Effective & Affordable Air Cleaners:

[Visit here for more information](#)

Resource for Healthy Indoor Air Quality:

Check out the website <https://forhealth.org/> for many resources related to healthy homes and indoor air quality!

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to [Funding Opportunities](#)! Additionally, THHN has developed a [Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#).

Environmental Justice

Newsletters, Calendars, and Recorded Webinars

Join NCAI's [Climate Action email](#) listserv here!

Sign up for the [Alliance for Green Heat](#)'s newsletter!

To view and/or receive [ITEP's Climate Change newsletter, click here!](#)

ITEP's [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

ITEP's [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars, and other events related to Tribes and climate change.

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices](#)

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series

Click [here](#) to see all past and upcoming webinars hosted by the EPA.

Information for IRA and other competitive grants

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DsRrod7XKk>

EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be found here:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/environmental-protection-agency>

EPA's Community and Tribal Programs Group - [Tribal Actions and Events calendar](#)

This calendar is also linked under the "Tribal Air and Climate Resources" webpage under the "Policy and Planning" heading available at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal-air>. The purpose of the calendar is to ensure that our Tribal partners are kept apprised of EPA activities that are relevant to them. If you have any questions about the calendars or any recommendations on how EPA can improve upon the calendars, please do not hesitate to reach out to Amanda Kaufman (Kaufman.Amanda@epa.gov) with any feedback.

To view and/or receive ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices, click here!](#)

Recorded Webinars

Looking for more information check out the [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

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